

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA  
AT CHARLESTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

CRIMINAL NO. 2:20-00024

THOMAS DREW BESS

**MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER**

Pending before the court is the defendant's Motion to Continue Trial and All Related Dates. (ECF No. 20). In support of his motion, counsel for the defendant explains that he was only recently appointed to represent defendant and that additional time is needed to review discovery (which was only recently received) as well as to meet with his client in order to prepare for trial.

Because failure to grant the requested continuance would likely result in a miscarriage of justice, the court finds that the ends of justice outweigh the interest of the defendant and the public in a speedy trial, see 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(A), and **GRANTS** the defendant's motion to continue. In deciding to grant defendant's motion, the court considered the factors outlined in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7)(B) and finds that denying the motion "would deny counsel for the defendant . . . the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into account the exercise of due diligence." Id. § 3161(h)(7)(B)(iv).

Accordingly, the court hereby **ORDERS** as follows:

- I. The deadline for the filing of pretrial motions is continued until **June 20, 2020**;
- II. The Pretrial Motions Hearing is continued until **10:30 a.m. on June 29, 2020, in Charleston**;
- III. Jury Instructions and Proposed Voir Dire are due to the court by **July 14, 2020**;
- IV. Trial of this action is continued until **9:30 a.m. on July 21, 2020, in Charleston**;
- V. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h) (7) (A), the time from the filing of the motion until the trial is excludable for purposes of the Speedy Trial Act.

The Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Memorandum Opinion and Order to all counsel of record, to the United States Marshal for the Southern District of West Virginia, and to the Probation Office of this court.

IT IS SO ORDERED this 18th day of May, 2020.

**ENTER:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David A. Faber  
Senior United States District Judge